

California Environmental Education Interagency Network (CEEIN)

Date: January 18, 2007 Time: 9:30 am–12:00 pm
 Location: 1001 I Street, Room 230
 Lead: Edward Wong
 Note taker: Nita Davidson
 Facilitator: None; Zori was unable to attend



ATTENDANCE

Amit Rana, Sierra Club	Hedda Jowza, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Andrea Lewis, California Environmental Protection Agency	Jamie Cameron-Harley (for Vanessa Byrd), Department of Toxic Substances Control
Annie Kohut-Frankel, California Coastal Commission	Jerry Lieberman, State Education and Environment Roundtable
Bobbie Winn, Department of Fish and Game	Kay Antuñez, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF)
Brenda Saldaña, California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB)	Mindy Fox, CIWMB
Carolyn Tucker, Department of Water Resources	Nita Davidson, Department of Pesticide Regulation
Celeste Royer, CREEC Network	Sharon Jang, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Chris Graillat, California Energy Commission	Theresa Bober, CIWMB
Christiane Maertens, The Walt Disney Company	Tina Muncie, Department of Conservation
Crystal Harden, Department of Education	
Edward Wong, Air Resources Board	

AGENDA

	Item	Lead	Minutes
1.	Check-in and Catch-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome & Introductions Review Agenda Approve Minutes from November 2006 Update Outstanding Action Items Distribute “What’s New in Your World” 	Ed Wong	<p>We welcomed a few new people: Mindy Fox and Brenda Saldaña from CIWMB’s Office of Education and the Environment, and Hedda Jowza and Sharon Jang from U.S. EPA. We were also happy to see Jamie Cameron-Harley, who’s now with DTSC and was substituting for Vanessa Byrd. We moved not to change the January agenda, and approved the November minutes as submitted. We discussed and updated outstanding action items from the November meeting. We noted that Melinda Terry has left the Resources Agency and a new representative to CEEIN has not yet been appointed. The Cal/EPA faction of CEEIN should complete the meeting host sign-up sheet. We hope to have a March or April field trip to the Bialek Hilton Biological Sciences Habitat in Carmel¹. (This environmental education center is one of the recipients of the 2006 Governor’s Environmental and Economic Leadership Award.) We then passed around the event calendar so that Annie can update it.</p>
2.	Committee Reports & Discussion Leadership & Legislation Education and the Environment Initiative (EEI) Update	Andrea Lewis ■■■■■■■■■■ Jerry Lieberman ■■■■■■■■■■ Mindy Fox	<p>The EEI group has been working at warp speed with Celeste and Crystal to recruit teachers who can field test the units. Mindy Fox is the new director of CIWMB’s Office of Education & the Environment (OEE). Brenda Saldaña the new supervisor, and Theresa Bober a Senior Specialist. Other new faces in the program are Roni Java, Becky Williams (returning from a few years ago), and Bendan Blue. Curriculum writers were hired for 4th–6th grades, K–3rd grades, and 9th–12th grades; the Acorn Group (Jenny Rigby) was hired as the editor; and Cal Poly (CSU SLO) will be the</p>

¹ We’re planning a one-day field trip, so we’d have to leave early and would probably get home late in the day.

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		Andrea Lewis ■■■■■■■■■■ Jerry Lieberman ■■■■■■■■■■ Mindy Fox	<p>graphic designers. National Geographic and ESRI are partners. The process just began with a 6th grade unit on natural resources. Nita helped review this first unit, and it next gets poured into a design template and then will be reviewed by others. All are encouraged to apply as content reviewers by filling out an application (http://www.creec.org/stories/storyReader\$198), necessary to ensure transparency. Each unit will have several reviewers. A PowerPoint presentation further explained some of the details. As each unit is developed, it's reviewed by the education and content working groups, then goes through graphic design and more editing. Field testing is next and environmental education connections identified. (Ten school districts will provide initial field-testing sites: Barstow, Poway, Elk Grove, Hesperia, Snowline, Albany, Santa Monica, Calaveras, Lompoc, and New Haven. LAUSD may follow as well as Long Beach, San Ramon, San Francisco, Ripon, and others in Los Angeles County.) Another revision will follow and the resource section will be completed. Then the unit will go through more pilot testing, public comment, and revision. It will subsequently be reviewed by the Curriculum Commission, Agency Secretaries, and the State Board of Education, with revisions at each step. Initial field tests will take place in April 2007, and completion of all steps for all units projected for January 2009. At this point, EEI will produce 150 K–12 instructional units and 8,000 to 10,000 pages. Each unit will include a graphically tangible overview that relates the environmental principle & concept (EP&C) to the content standard, a California Connections page, unit planner, and unit resources, which includes references. A letter from the Water Education Foundation (WEF) on December 1, 2006 to Linda S. Adams, Secretary for Environmental Protection, brought up several questions. The response (with questions explained within) is: (1) There is no mandate that teachers use the model curriculum to the exclusion of other educational materials; (2) There will be room in the model curriculum for existing environmental educational programs, and these will be listed in a "Resources for Further Learning" component; (3) The EEI model curriculum's goal is to teach the EP&Cs and California's academic content standards to mastery; (4) The model curriculum will include activities and lessons that stakeholders identify as appropriate—there will be no copyright infringement; (5) The use of the phrase "goods and services" refers to the relationship between the human population and the environment, not that between the economy and the environment; (6) The EEI Web site will list all EE programs based on approval that have correlated their materials with the EP&Cs. Additionally, Cal/EPA and CDE support continued financial support for the CREEC Network, and will hold regional share fairs for educators to learn about local EE resources as well as EEI.</p>

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	Communications No Committee Report		
	Administration & Organization No Committee Report		
	Diversity CABE Update	Kay Antuñez	The annual conference of the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) will be in Long Beach, March 14–17. The meetings draw 5,000–6,000 people and a lot of school districts. Attendance has declined in the last few years. CDF contributes financially to CABE, not JCEC. Six CEEIN agencies plan to attend. Unfortunately, the CABE conference overlaps with the JCEC judging and luncheon (see below).
	Environmental JCEC Update (Jiminy Cricket's Environmental TM Challenge)	Christiane Maertens	About 500 teachers have taken the class pledge, with 30,000 3rd, 4th and 5th graders enrolled in the JCEC. About 150 classrooms are enrolled in a class project. Judging will take place March 7 and 9, in Northern and Southern California, respectively. However, the schedule will be revised, particularly since the final judging and luncheon fall right in the middle of the CABE conference (March 14–15). The Disneyland trip for the grand prize-winning class will be May 3–4. As for judging, Disney will invite CEEIN, CREEC, K–12 Alliance to apply by February 10 to Christiane via e-mail, and selection made by the next CEEIN meeting on February 15. Judges must participate in a morning calibration and full day of judging. Carolyn Tucker mentioned that the CABE conference will fall right in the middle of judging—and the luncheon. Christiane replied that Disney is a bit flexible and open to suggestions. In the future there will be more of an effort to avoid scheduling the judging and luncheon during the CABE conference.
3.	Miscellaneous Topics CREEC Network (California Regional Environmental Education Community)	Celeste Royer	CREEC coordinators work directly with teachers to assist with JCEC projects—especially finding local resources to enhance projects. It's hoped that this will increase the number of completed JCEC portfolios. The assistance motivates the teachers. CREEC has 13 regional offices and 19 coordinators. CEEIN members can contribute information about events and resources that teachers can access. Celeste gave us a tour of CREEC's Web site. She also discussed CREEC's partnerships and collaboration with school districts, government agencies, businesses, and community groups. She passed out <i>CREEC Connections</i> , CREEC's newsletter. The most recent issue focuses on outdoor EE programs. We also received invitations to CREEC's 10-year anniversary luncheon and evening awards ceremony (two separate events) in Berkeley on February 7.
	Funding for JCEC (not on original agenda)	Bobbie Winn ■■■■■■■■■■ Andrea Lewis ■■■■■■■■■■	Most of the CEEIN-member agencies contribute \$1,000/year to JCEC. In the past, there have been different arrangements, most recently expedited by CDFA when Karen Johnson was there. Several members stated they had worked out previous agreements ranging from one to three years. CIWMB's fiscal office will take the lead and handle invoicing in the form of a 3-year agreement or whatever works best for each agency.

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	Outdoor Education Legislation Update	Amit Rana	Amit handed out a fact sheet on a bill that would permanently establish an outdoor education and recreation program in California. The outdoor education bill authored by Alex Padilla was revived for this year (last year's bill died). It doesn't have a bill number yet. It proposes to reverse the sedentary youth culture brought about by too much television watching and video game playing, which can lead to obesity and diabetes. The Sierra Club is trying to engage inner-city minorities and underserved groups, the future basis of the environmental movement. Amit will distribute more information to CEEIN when available.
3.	No Guest Speakers		
4.	What's New In Your World California Coastal Commission	All	Annie submitted a WNIYW on her activities.
5.	Meeting Wrap-Up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarify Action Items Pending Items/Parking Lot Develop February Meeting Agenda 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ed asked Sharon and Hedda to consider giving a 20-minute PowerPoint presentation about US EPA's EE Program at a future CEEIN meeting. The following action items were assigned: Andrea will follow up on obtaining signatures for the MOU, and email to Ed copies of today's EEI update presentation and Linda S. Adams response letter to the Water Education Foundation's EEI issues; Ed will continue securing Cal/EPA hosts and note takers for 2007 and develop comments on the 2006 CSTA conference for review by members who attended it; Christiane will notify members of the revised dates for the Northern and Southern California meetings to select the 16 JCEC portfolios, and of the revised date for the Grand Prize Winner Announcement Luncheon; Carolyn will check with Phaedra and Tina regarding the amount of CEEIN brochures in stock and if any large numbers had been distributed to outdoor schools; and Annie will contact CSTA to get a CEEIN blurb in the Resources Section of their California Classroom Science newspaper. As in the past, there will be no March meeting because the JCEC Grand Prize Winner Announcement Luncheon will take the meeting's place. The field trip dates are flexible. Theresa will be the February meeting host.

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